11th February 1959]

SRI M. JAGANNATHAN : May I know why the Government are extremely unwilling or reluctant to open a fire station at Tindivanam in order to cater to the needs of the municipal town in view of the fact that that particular place is subjected to frequent outbreaks of fire?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : It is only a question of finance and priority.

Women political prisoners

* 224 *Q.*—SRI A. A. RASHEED : Will the Hon. the Minister for Home be pleased to state the number of women political prisoners?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : There are no women political prisoners in the Jails of this State.

Begger Home Avadi

* 225 *Q.*—SRI N. MARUDACHALAM (on behalf of SRI V. K. Kothandaraman) : கனம் உள் விவகார அமைச்சர் அவர்கள் தயவுசெய்து பதிலளிப்பாரா—

(அ) ஆவடியிலுள்ள பிச்சைக்கார விடுதியில் எத்தனை பேர் உள்ளனர் ?

(ஆ) அவர்களில் ஆண்கள், பெண்கள், குழந்தைகள் எத்தனை பேர் ?

(இ) அவர்களுக்கு எதாவது தொழில்கள் கற்றுக்கொடுக்கப்படுகின்றதா ?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (*a*) The total number of inmates in the Government Care Camp at Melpakkam (Avadi) was 508 on 22—12—1958.

(*b*) Males—401 (including 3 children).

Females—107 (including 3 children).

(*c*) The following handicrafts are taught to the inmates :—

1. Weaving.
2. Tag Making.
3. Tailoring.
4. Carpentry.
5. Book-Binding.
6. Pottery.

SRI A. A. RASHEED : Is the Hon. Minister aware that the beggars still pester the people in the city and what steps have been taken by the Government to remove them to the beggar home?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : I do admit that all beggars in the city have not been confined to the begger home at Melpakkam.